

# NEWS RELEASE



**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Department of Industrial Relations**  
**News For Immediate Release**  
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## **ALABAMA POSTS ANOTHER 3.6 PERCENT UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, July 21, 2006 . . . . . A 3.6 percent June unemployment rate marks the third consecutive month that Alabama has posted that jobless figure. The unemployment rate in June 2005 was 4.0 percent.

“While the jobless rate remained steady, there were nearly 300 more unemployed Alabamians, with 78,509 in June, compared to 78,218 in May,” says Phyllis Kennedy, Alabama Department of Industrial Relations director. “A year ago in June 2005 there were 86,365 unemployed. Alabama continues to have unemployment rates below the national figures.”

2006 ALABAMA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES	
January	3.8%
February	3.6%
March	3.3%
April	3.6%
May	3.6%
June	3.6%

The comparable national unemployment rate for June is 4.6 percent, unchanged from May’s 4.6 percent. In June 2005 the national jobless rate was 5.0 percent.

The lowest county rates in June are: Shelby (2.6 percent), Baldwin (2.9 percent), and Lee (3.1 percent). The highest county rates in June are: Perry (9.2 percent), Wilcox (8.5 percent), and Dallas (8.3 percent).

Over the year, there was a net gain of 32,500 jobs in wage and salary employment. The majority of the annual growth occurred in professional and business services (+11,200); followed by construction (+5,200); leisure and hospitality (+4,700); educational and health services (+4,300); and manufacturing (+3,700).

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County unemployment rates, Metropolitan Area Unemployment Rates, and an Alabama map of county unemployment rates, are available at: <http://dir.alabama.gov>. Click on “Alabama Labor Market Information Division” under “Quick Links” and follow prompts.